

Appl. No. 10/042,004
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Reply to Office action of December 2, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 56-67. All pending and withdrawn claims are listed below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented) A system for playing a sequence of games of bingo in a first session including:

a data processing means, said data processing means storing a plurality of bingo cards and generating statements having informational data thereon, said data corresponding to one or more of said bingo cards;

a printer in communication with said data processing means for printing said generated statements;

means to automatically generate random numbers, said means to generate random numbers in communication with said processing means such that automatically generated random numbers are communicated to said data processing means;

said data processing means determining whether one or more of said bingo cards correspond to a winning card by comparing said stored bingo cards with each of the numbers generated and storing a status of each bingo card as said numbers are generated, said means to generate random numbers being automatically disabled by said data processing means in response to said determination of one or more winning bingo cards by said data processing means;

said data processing means further automatically re-enabling said generating of random numbers to initiate at least one event selected from the group consisting of (a) a new bingo game in said session and (b) a new bingo session; and

means to notify players of the status of stored bingo cards corresponding to said generated statements.

2. (original) The system of claim 1 wherein said data processing means is a microprocessor.

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3. (previously presented) The system of claim 2 wherein said means to automatically generate random numbers is a random number generator integrated in a microprocessor.

4. (previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said means to automatically generate random numbers is a bingo ball hopper.

5. (previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said means to notify said players of the status of their statements is a monitor, viewable by said players, in communication with said data processing means.

6. (original) The system of claim 5 wherein said monitor displays a statement identification code corresponding to the best bingo card.

7. (original) The system of claim 5 wherein said monitor displays one or more of the bingo cards closest to achieving bingo.

8. (original) The system of claim 5 wherein said monitor displays the numbers needed to be generated for a best bingo card to achieve bingo.

9. (original) The system of claim 1 wherein said data processing means comprises a computer network having one or more point of sale terminals.

10. (original) The system of claim 9 wherein said one or more point of sale terminals includes a magnetic card reader, a barcode reader, a bill acceptor, a printer, a bill dispenser and a keyboard.

11. (original) The system of claim 9 wherein said one or more point of sale terminals includes a smart card reader, a barcode reader, a bill acceptor, a printer, a bill dispenser and a keyboard.

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12. (original) The system of claim 9 wherein said one or more point of sale terminals includes a magnetic card reader, a barcode reader, a bill acceptor, a printer, a bill dispenser and a touch screen.
13. (original) The system of claim 9 wherein said one or more point of sale terminals includes a smart card reader, a barcode reader, a bill acceptor, a printer, a bill dispenser and a keyboard.
14. (original) The system of claim 9 wherein said point of sale terminals include a monitor for displaying a current status of at least one statement including a payout value associated therewith.
15. (original) The system of claim 1 wherein, upon determination of one or more winning bingo cards, said data processing means further determines a prize associated therewith.
16. (previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said first session comprises at least two bingo games in sequence, each sequential bingo game initiated upon the occurrence of one or more predetermined events, said occurrence enabling said means to generate random numbers.
17. (original) The system of claim 16 wherein the predetermined event is a predetermined time since completion of a previous bingo game.
18. (original) The system of claim 16 wherein the predetermined event is a predetermined time for a start of a new game.
19. (original) The system of claim 16 wherein the predetermined event is a predetermined number of sales of bingo cards for a new game.
20. (original) The system of claim 1 wherein said data processing unit further validates

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said statements upon presentation by comparing stored informational data corresponding to said statements with said information printed on said statements.

21. (original) The system of claim 20 wherein said information printed on said statements includes an identification code.

22. (original) The system of claim 20 wherein said information printed on said statements includes a verification code.

23. (original) The system of claim 20 wherein said information printed on said statements includes a player tracking number.

24. (original) The system of claim 20 wherein said information printed on said statements includes a player name.

25. (original) The system of claim 20 wherein at least portions of said information printed on said statements is in the form of a barcode.

26. (original) The system of claim 10 wherein said point of sale terminals include a data processing means that generates and prints one or more statements each including an identification and verification number; and

said data processing means displaying on a monitor an outcome corresponding to said statement upon first inputting said identification number, said data processing means validating said statement upon second inputting of the verification number.

27. (original) The system of claim 1 further including a cashier terminal in communication with said data processing unit, said cashier terminal including a monitor for displaying an outcome corresponding to said printed statements.

28. (original) The system of claim 27 wherein said data processing means scans

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identification and verification codes printed on said statements to retrieve the results of the bingo cards corresponding to said statements.

29. (original) The system of claim 28 wherein an operator may override the data processing means and manually enter the identification and verification codes.

30. (previously presented) A computer implemented method of playing a sequence of games of bingo in at least one bingo session including:

storing a plurality of bingo cards in computer storage means and said computer generating one or more statements corresponding to said bingo cards;

said computer causing printing of said generated statements;

generating random numbers;

determining whether one or more of said bingo cards are winning cards by comparing said stored bingo cards with each of the numbers generated and storing a status of each card as said numbers are generated;

automatically disabling said generating of random numbers in response to said computer determining one or more winning cards;

automatically re-enabling said generating of random numbers to initiate at least one event selected from the group consisting of (a) a new bingo game in said session and (b) a new bingo session; and

notifying players of the status of stored bingo cards corresponding to said generated statements.

31. (original) The method of claim 30 wherein generating random numbers comprises a random number generator integrated in a microprocessor.

32. (original) The method of claim 30 wherein generating random numbers comprises a bingo ball hopper.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 30 wherein notifying said players of the

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status of their statements comprises a monitor, viewable by players, in communication with said computer.

34. (original) The method of claim 33 wherein said monitor displays one or more of the bingo cards closest to achieving bingo.

35. (original) The method of claim 33 wherein said monitor displays a statement identification code corresponding to the best bingo card.

36. (original) The method of claim 33 wherein said monitor displays the numbers needed to be generated for a best bingo card to achieve bingo.

37. (original) The method of claim 30 further comprising as computer network having one or more point of sale terminals.

38. (original) The method of claim 37 wherein said point of sale terminals include a monitor for displaying a current status of at least one statement including a payout value associated therewith.

39. (original) The method of claim 30 further including determining a prize associated with the determination of one or more winning bingo cards.

40. (previously presented) The method of claim 30 further comprising at least two session bingo games in sequence, each sequential bingo game initiated upon the occurrence of one or more predetermined events, said occurrence enabling said generating of random numbers.

41. (original) The method of claim 40 wherein the predetermined event is a predetermined time since completion of a previous bingo game.

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42. (original) The method of claim 40 wherein the predetermined event is a predetermined time for a start of a new game.

43. (original) The method of claim 40 wherein the predetermined event is a predetermined number of sales of bingo cards for a new game.

44. (original) The method of claim 30 further comprising validating said statements upon presentation by comparing stored informational data corresponding to said statements with said information printed on said statements.

45. (original) The method of claim 44 wherein said information printed on said statements includes an identification code.

46. (original) The method of claim 44 wherein said information printed on said statements includes a verification code.

47. (original) The method of claim 44 wherein said information printed on said statements includes a player tracking number.

48. (original) The method of claim 44 wherein said information printed on said statements includes a player name.

49. (original) The method of claim 44 wherein at least portions of said information printed on said statements is in the form of a barcode.

50. (original) The method of claim 37 wherein said point of sale terminals generate and print one or more statements each including an identification and verification number; said terminals displaying on a monitor an outcome corresponding to said statement upon first inputting said identification number and validating said statement upon second inputting the verification number.

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51. (original) The method of claim 30 further comprises displaying an outcome corresponding to said printed statements.

52. (original) The method of claim 51 wherein said displaying an outcome corresponding to said printed statements comprises scanning identification and verification codes printed on said statements to retrieve the results of the bingo cards corresponding to said statements.

53. (original) The method of claim 52 wherein said scanning operation is overridden and the identification and verification codes are inputted manually.

54. (previously presented) The system of claim 1 further including means for automatically starting a new session of bingo games.

55. (previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 30 further including the step of: if no games remain in the session, automatically initiating a new session of bingo games.

56. (currently amended) A system for playing a game of bingo session of bingo games including:

a data processing means, said data processing means storing a plurality of bingo cards and generating statements having informational data thereon, said data corresponding to one or more of said bingo cards;

a printer in communication with said data processing means for printing said generated statements;

means to generate random numbers, said means to generate random numbers in communication with said processing means such that generated random numbers are communicated to said data processing means;

said data processing means determining whether one or more of said bingo cards

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correspond to a winning card by comparing said stored bingo cards with each of the numbers generated and storing a status of each bingo card as said numbers are generated, said means to generate random numbers being disabled by said data processing means in response to said determination of one or more winning bingo cards by said data processing means; and

means to notify players of the status of stored bingo cards corresponding to said generated statements wherein said means to notify said players of the status of their statements is a monitor, viewable by said players, in communication with said data processing means; and wherein said monitor displays a statement identification code corresponding to the best bingo card; and

said data processing means further automatically re-enabling said generating of random numbers to initiate a new game in said session of bingo games.

57. (currently amended) A system for playing a game of bingo session of bingo games including:

a data processing means, said data processing means storing a plurality of bingo cards and generating statements having informational data thereon, said data corresponding to one or more of said bingo cards;

a printer in communication with said data processing means for printing said generated statements;

means to generate random numbers, said means to generate random numbers in communication with said processing means such that generated random numbers are communicated to said data processing means;

said data processing means determining whether one or more of said bingo card correspond to a winning card by comparing said stored bingo cards with each of the numbers generated and storing a status of each bingo card as said numbers are generated, said means to generate random numbers being disabled by said data processing means in response to said determination of one or more winning bingo cards by said data processing means; and

means to notify players of the status of stored bingo cards corresponding to said

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generated statements;

wherein said means to notify said players of the status of their statements is a monitor, viewable by said players, in communication with said data processing means; and wherein said monitor displays one or more of the bingo cards closest to achieving bingo; and

said data processing means further automatically re-enabling said generating of random numbers to initiate a new game in said session of bingo games.

58. (currently amended) A system for playing a game of bingo including session of bingo games including:

a data processing means, said data processing means storing a plurality of bingo cards and generating statements having informational data thereon, said data corresponding to one or more of said bingo cards;

a printer in communication with said data processing means for printing said generated statements;

means to generate random numbers, said means to generate random numbers in communication with said processing means such that generated random numbers are communicated to said data processing means;

said data processing means determining whether one or more of said bingo card correspond to a winning card by comparing said stored bingo cards with each of the numbers generated and storing a status of each bingo card as said numbers are generated, said means to generate random numbers being disabled by said data processing means in response to said determination of one or more winning bingo cards by said data processing means; and

means to notify players of the status of stored bingo cards corresponding to said generated statements;

wherein said means to notify said players of the status of their statements is a monitor, viewable by said players, in communication with said data processing means; and wherein said monitor displays the numbers needed to be generated for a best bingo card to achieve bingo; and

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said data processing means further automatically re-enabling said generating of random numbers to initiate a new game in said session of bingo games.

59. (currently amended) A system for playing a game of bingo session of bingo games including:

a data processing means, said data processing means storing a plurality of bingo cards and generating statements having informational data thereon, said data corresponding to one or more of said bingo cards;

a printer in communication with said data processing means for printing said generated statements;

means to generate random numbers, said means to generate random numbers in communication with said processing means such that generated random numbers are communicated to said data processing means;

said data processing means determining whether one or more of said bingo card correspond to a winning card by comparing said stored bingo cards with each of the numbers generated and storing a status of each bingo card as said numbers are generated, said means to generate random numbers being disabled by said data processing means in response to said determination of one or more winning bingo cards by said data processing means; and

means to notify players of the status of stored bingo cards corresponding to said generated statements;

wherein said data processing means comprises a computer network having one or more point of sale terminals; and wherein said one or more point of sale terminals includes a magnetic card reader, a barcode reader, a bill acceptor, a printer, a bill dispenser and a keyboard; and

said data processing means further automatically re-enabling said generating of random numbers to initiate a new game in said session of bingo games.

60. (currently amended) A system for playing a game of bingo session of bingo games including:

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a data processing means, said data processing means storing a plurality of bingo cards and generating statements having informational data thereon, said data corresponding to one or more of said bingo cards;

a printer in communication with said data processing means for printing said generated statements;

means to generate random numbers, said means to generate random numbers in communication with said processing means such that generated random numbers are communicated to said data processing means;

said data processing means determining whether one or more of said bingo card correspond to a winning card by comparing said stored bingo cards with each of the numbers generated and storing a status of each bingo card as said numbers are generated, said means to generate random numbers being disabled by said data processing means in response to said determination of one or more winning bingo cards by said data processing means; and

said data processing means further automatically re-enabling said generating of random numbers to initiate a new game in said session of bingo games;

means to notify players of the status of stored bingo cards corresponding to said generated statements,

wherein said data processing means comprises a computer network having one or more point of sale terminals; and

wherein said one or more point of sale terminals includes a smart card reader, a barcode reader, a bill acceptor, a printer, a bill dispenser and a keyboard.

61. (currently amended) A system for playing a game of bingo session of bingo games including:

a data processing means, said data processing means storing a plurality of bingo cards and generating statements having informational data thereon, said data corresponding to one or more of said bingo cards;

a printer in communication with said data processing means for printing said generated statements;

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means to generate random numbers, said means to generate random numbers in communication with said processing means such that generated random numbers are communicated to said data processing means;

said data processing means determining whether one or more of said bingo card correspond to a winning card by comparing said stored bingo cards with each of the numbers generated and storing a status of each bingo card as said numbers are generated, said means to generate random numbers being disabled by said data processing means in response to said determination of one or more winning bingo cards by said data processing means; and

said data processing means further automatically re-enabling said generating of random numbers to initiate a new game in said session of bingo games;

means to notify players of the status of stored bingo cards corresponding to said generated statements,

wherein said data processing means comprises a computer network having one or more point of sale terminals; and

wherein said one or more point of sale terminals includes a magnetic card reader, a barcode reader, a bill acceptor, a printer, a bill dispenser and a touch screen.

62. (currently amended) A system for playing a game of bingo session of bingo games including:

a data processing means, said data processing means storing a plurality of bingo cards and generating statements having informational data thereon, said data corresponding to one or more of said bingo cards;

a printer in communication with said data processing means for printing said generated statements;

means to generate random numbers, said means to generate random numbers in communication with said processing means such that generated random numbers are communicated to said data processing means;

said data processing means determining whether one or more of said bingo card correspond to a winning card by comparing said stored bingo cards with each of the

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numbers generated and storing a status of each bingo card as said numbers are generated, said means to generate random numbers being disabled by said data processing means in response to said determination of one or more winning bingo cards by said data processing means; and

said data processing means further automatically re-enabling said generating of random numbers to initiate a new game in said session of bingo games;

means to notify players of the status of stored bingo cards corresponding to said generated statements,

wherein said data processing means comprises a computer network having one or more point of sale terminals; and

wherein said one or more point of sale terminals includes a smart card reader, a barcode reader, a bill acceptor, a printer, a bill dispenser and a keyboard.

63. (currently amended) A system for playing a game of bingo session of bingo games including:

a data processing means, said data processing means storing a plurality of bingo cards and generating statements having informational data thereon, said data corresponding to one or more of said bingo cards;

a printer in communication with said data processing means for printing said generated statements;

means to generate random numbers, said means to generate random numbers in communication with said processing means such that generated random numbers are communicated to said data processing means;

said data processing means determining whether one or more of said bingo card correspond to a winning card by comparing said stored bingo cards with each of the numbers generated and storing a status of each bingo card as said numbers are generated, said means to generate random numbers being disabled by said data processing means in response to said determination of one or more winning bingo cards by said data processing means; and

said data processing means further automatically re-enabling said generating of random

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numbers to initiate a new game in said session of bingo games

means to notify players of the status of stored bingo cards corresponding to said generated statements,

wherein said data processing means comprises a computer network having one or more point of sale terminals; and

wherein said point of sale terminals include a monitor for displaying a current status of at least one statement including a payout value associated therewith.

64. (currently amended) A system for playing a game of bingo session of bingo games including:

a data processing means, said data processing means storing a plurality of bingo cards and generating statements having informational data thereon, said data corresponding to one or more of said bingo cards;

a printer in communication with said data processing means for printing said generated statements;

means to generate random numbers, said means to generate random numbers in communication with said processing means such that generated random numbers are communicated to said data processing means;

said data processing means determining whether one or more of said bingo card correspond to a winning card by comparing said stored bingo cards with each of the numbers generated and storing a status of each bingo card as said numbers are generated, said means to generate random numbers being disabled by said data processing means in response to said determination of one or more winning bingo cards by said data processing means; and

said data processing means further automatically re-enabling said generating of random numbers to initiate a new game in said session of bingo games;

means to notify players of the status of stored bingo cards corresponding to said generated statements,

wherein said data processing means comprises a computer network having one or more point of sale terminals; and

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wherein said one or more point of sale terminals includes a magnetic card reader, a barcode reader, a bill acceptor, a printer, a bill dispenser and a keyboard; and

wherein said point of sale terminals include a data processing means that generates and prints one or more statements each including an identification and verification number, and said data processing means displaying on a monitor an outcome corresponding to said statement upon first inputting said identification number, said data processing means validating said statement upon second inputting of the verification number.

65. (currently amended) A computer implemented method of playing a game of bingo ~~session of bingo games~~ including:

storing a plurality of bingo cards in computer storage means and said computer generating one or more statements corresponding to said bingo cards;

said computer causing printing of said generated statements;

generating random numbers;

determining whether one or more of said bingo cards are winning cards by comparing said stored bingo cards with each of the numbers generated and storing a status of each card as said numbers are generated;

disabling said generating of random numbers in response to said computer determining one or more winning cards;

notifying players of the status of stored bingo cards corresponding to said generated statements;

wherein notifying said players of the status of their statements comprises a monitor, viewable by players, in communication with said computer, wherein said monitor displays one or more of the bingo cards closest to achieving bingo; and said computer means further automatically re-enabling said generating of random numbers to initiate a new game in said session of bingo games.

66. (currently amended) A computer implemented method of playing a game of bingo ~~session of bingo games~~ including:

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storing a plurality of bingo cards in computer storage means and said computer generating one or more statements corresponding to said bingo cards;

said computer causing printing of said generated statements;

generating random numbers;

determining whether one or more of said bingo cards are winning cards by comparing said stored bingo cards with each of the numbers generated and storing a status of each card as said numbers are generated;

disabling said generating of random numbers in response to said computer determining one or more winning cards;

notifying players of the status of stored bingo cards corresponding to said generated statements;

wherein notifying said players of the status of their statements comprises a monitor, viewable by players, in communication with said computer,

wherein said monitor displays the numbers needed to be generated for a best bingo card to achieve bingo; and

automatically re-enabling said generating of random numbers to initiate a new game in said session of bingo games.

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66. (currently amended) A computer implemented method of playing a game of bingo session of bingo games including:

storing a plurality of bingo cards in computer storage means and said computer generating one or more statements corresponding to said bingo cards;

said computer causing printing of said generated statements;

generating random numbers;

determining whether one or more of said bingo cards are winning cards by comparing said stored bingo cards with each of the numbers generated and storing a status of each card as said numbers are generated;

disabling said generating of random numbers in response to said computer determining one or more winning cards;

notifying players of the status of stored bingo cards corresponding to said generated

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statements;

said computer further automatically re-enabling said generating of random numbers to initiate a new game in said session of bingo games; and

further comprising as said computer communicating with a computer network having one or more point of sale terminals,

wherein said point of sale terminals include a monitor for displaying a current status of at least one statement including a payout value associated therewith.